

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

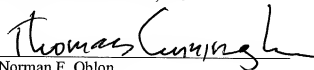
Claims 1, 2, 5, 10 and 49 are active. Claims 6-9 and 11-48 have been withdrawn from consideration. This Amendment corrects the Sequence ID Numbers to correspond to those in the Sequence Listing filed March 5, 2003. That is, SEQ ID NO: 1 now refers to a nucleic acid sequence and SEQ ID NO: 2 refers to an amino acid sequence. Accordingly, the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been added. The Applicants reiterate their responses to the rejections of record set forth in the Response filed December 2, 2003.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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